28

Shorter Contributions

MARIANINA ROSEA (PRUVOT-FOL, 1930) (OPISTHOBRANCHIA: DENDRONOTACEA): FURTHER RECORDS FROM AUSTRALIA

Robert Burn Hon. Associate, National Museum of Victoria, Melbourne

Since reporting Marianina rosea (Pruvot-Fol, 1930) from 'The Blows', Point Quobba, Western Australia (Burn, 1974: 305), additional material of this pretty little dendronotacean has been received from three widely separated localities. The specimens have been deposited in the National Museum of Victoria.

Duncombe Bay, Norfolk Island, 14 m in cavern, 25 September 1976, coll. J.E. Watson, 1 specimen preserved length 7 mm (F30099). In life, body deep mauve, tentacles, velar and lateral processes, lobe of rhinophoral sheaths and stripe on tail shining cream, rhinophores bright red. New record for Norfolk Island.

North Solitary Island, Coffs Harbour, New South Wales, 20 m under rock, 26 September 1976. coll. Neville Coleman, 1 specimen preserved length 5 mm (F30101). In life, body mauve, tentacles, velar and lateral processes, lobe of rhinophoral sheaths and stripe on tail yellowish-cream, rhinophores orange red.

New record for New South Wales.

Knob Point, Stokes Bay, South Australia, 10 m on blue ascidian, 6 March 1978, coll. Neville Coleman, 1 specimen preserved length 4 mm (F30100). In life, body bright bluish-mauve, tentacles, velar and lateral processes deep red, stripe on tail a reddish tinge, rhinophores lighter red. The velar and lateral processes are short and small in this specimen, and the rhinophoral sheaths have no lobe. There are three pairs of lateral processes. New record for South Australia.

Further distribution: Île des Pins, New Caledonia (Pruvot-Fol, 1930); Aranuka, Gilbert Islands (Odhner, 1936); Guam, Anatahan and Pagan Islands, Marianas (Carlson & Hoff, 1973); Point Quobba, Western Australia (Burn, 1974).

With the exception of the South Australian specimen, all references to living M.rosea indicate little variation in body shape and colouration. The South Australian specimen differs from the typical form in lacking a lobe on the rim of the rhinophoral sheaths, in having short and small velar and lateral processes, and in the red colouration of the tentacles, velar and lateral processes. Further material may show this to be an isolated population worthy of subspecific separation, or perhaps another species.

REFERENCES

BURN, R., 1974. The taxonomy and distribution of Marianina rosea (Pruvot-Fol, 1930) and Thecacera pacifica (Bergh, 1883) comb. nov. Veliger 16(3): 305-306. CARLSON, C.H. & P.J. HOFF, 1973. External description of a living Aranucus bifidus (Odhner,

1936). Veliger 15(3): 172-173.
ODHNER, N.H., 1936. Nudibranchia Dendronotacea. Mélanges Paul Pelseneer. Mém. Mus. Roy.

d'Hist. Nat. Belg. (2), 3: 1057-1128, 1 pl.

PRUVOT-FOL, A., 1930. Diagnoses provisiores (incomplètes) des especes nouvelles et liste provisoire des mollusques nudibranches recuellis par Mme A. Pruvot-Fol en Nouvelle-Calédonie (Île des Pins). Bull. Mus. Nation. Hist. Nat. (2), 2(2): 229-232.

NOTE ADDED IN PROOF

A second specimen from the above-mentioned South Australian locality has the same basic colouration and characteristics, except that the tentacles are cream, the upper part of the rhinophoral sheaths is tinted rose-red and the rim bears a long pointed lobe of the same colour, and the velar and lateral processes are rose-red.

Knob Point, Stokes Bay, N coast of Kangaroo Island, South Australia, c.15m in rocks and gutters, 5 March 1978, coll. A. & R. Kuiter, 1 specimen (Australian Museum C109319).